

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 909

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000 to authorize appropriations for activities to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 8, 2007

Mr. BILBRAY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000 to authorize appropriations for activities to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Safe Water Improve-
5 ment and Modernization Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 (a) COASTAL RECREATION WATER QUALITY MONI-
3 TORING AND NOTIFICATION.—Section 406(i) of the Fed-
4 eral Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1346(i)) is
5 amended by striking “2005” and inserting “2012”.

6 (b) BEACHES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
7 COASTAL HEALTH ACT.—Section 8 of the Beaches Envi-
8 ronmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000
9 (114 Stat. 877) is amended by striking “2005” and insert-
10 ing “2012”.

11 **SEC. 3. USE OF MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS FOR MONI-**
12 **TORING AND ASSESSING COASTAL RECRE-**
13 **ATION WATERS.**

14 (a) STUDY.—The Administrator of the Environ-
15 mental Protection Agency shall conduct a study to assess
16 the benefits of using molecular diagnostics for monitoring
17 and assessing the quality of coastal recreation waters adja-
18 cent to beaches and similar points of access that are used
19 by the public.

20 (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study, the Ad-
21 ministrator shall—

22 (1) to the extent practicable, evaluate the full
23 range of available rapid indicator technologies and
24 methods that meet prescribed performance stand-
25 ards, including—

1 (A) the amplified nucleic acid assay meth-
2 od; and

3 (B) the indicator organism enterococci;
4 and

5 (2) compare the use of molecular diagnostics to
6 culture testing of same source water, including the
7 time for obtaining results, accuracy of results, and
8 future applicability.

9 (c) PARTNERSHIPS.—Notwithstanding chapter 63 of
10 title 31, United States Code, the Administrator may
11 award a grant or cooperative agreement to a public or pri-
12 vate organization to assist the Administrator in carrying
13 out the study.

14 (d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 3 years
15 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
16 shall transmit to Congress a report on the results of the
17 study.

18 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
20 necessary to carry out this section.

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